



Kinder News for November 2017...

Welcome to **November** in Kindergarten. We start the month off with our Remembrance Theme and continue with our on-going theme of Peace.

Religious Education: All Saints Day is celebrated each year on November 1 and is then followed by All Souls Day on November 2. Since each class will be studying a Saint and then displaying their findings in the foyer, we will have an opportunity to learn about a variety of Saints. Our class chose Saint Anthony of Padua because he is very special to Mr. Smith and the patron Saint of lost items seems fitting for kindergarten! In November, we will begin to look at "Feelings" as well.

***Please continue making the sign of the cross with your child. As always, the children are invited daily to make a special intention for a person or pet that needs a prayer. We also encourage our students to talk to God throughout the day - say *Good Morning* to Him! Thank Him. Ask Him for help and remember to say *Goodnight* to God!

Math: Spatial Sense and Geometry: This month, we will explore a wide variety of 2-D shapes and learn/review some Geometric Vocabulary: circle, square, rectangle, triangle, diamond, hexagon, octagon... corners, vertices, straight edges etc. How can we sort a group of 2D shapes? What do they have in common? How are they different? The children will make 2D shapes with string, elastics and play dough; they will participate in patterning activities with 2-D shapes, and work with pattern blocks and tangrams. What makes a circle a circle? What are similarities and differences between a triangle and a square? What objects in our environments are shaped like rectangles? And as always, please continue to count aloud with your child.

Language Focus: While reading stories to the children, we will focus on developing their predicting skills (What do you think will happen next? Why do you think that? Were your predictions correct?). We will also continue our daily dose of Phonological Awareness Activities. When we work on Phonological Awareness, we "play" with sounds and words: What is the first sound of a word? The last sound? Do these words rhyme? Let's jump for each word in a sentence. In November, we continue to have the children answer oral questions in complete sentences, we will make lists, write messages and continue to print our names among many other things.

Terrific Kids Theme: "Peace" ~ how can we show and bring peace to others with our words and actions? How can we be peace-makers? What does peace look like? What does it sound like? How does peace feel?

November Babies: Happy 5th Birthday to **Amory** on November 4th!

Head Lice: This is a common problem in school. Please check your child's head at least once/week, particularly behind the ears and at the nape of the neck. Live lice are grayish black and they move very quickly. Their nits (eggs) are white and/or black (if they are about to hatch) and they stick to a strand of hair like glue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We strongly encourage our girls to come to school in braids and/or a ponytail.

Progress Reports/Communication of Learning Reports will be sent home on November 27th and Parent/Teacher meetings will be held on November 29th beginning at 3:00 p.m. The meetings are a great opportunity for us to discuss the progress your child is making, our next steps/goals and a chance to answer any questions you may have. Please note that the meetings are for Adults/Parents and Teachers only. Information will be sent home about meeting times.

Gearing Up for the Cold Weather... Please ensure that ALL outdoor clothes (mitts, hats, jackets, snow-pants, boots etc.) are labeled with your child's name. Our goal is to encourage **INDEPENDENCE** so... kindly send mittens rather than gloves (if your child can put gloves on by him/herself, then that is o.k.), neck-warmers rather than scarves, boots that can be easily put on AND please show your child how to get dressed for the outdoors - snow pants first, then boots. When undressing from outside, students will be encouraged to place their hats, mitts and neck warmers either in the sleeves of their coats or in their school bags. Encouraging and practising this independence at home not only helps us, the teachers, but most importantly, it makes your child feel successful! We will of course help with zippers and buttons as needed though we always ask the children to try it themselves first. **MANY THANKS IN ADVANCE.**

Wishing you a peaceful month of November!

